

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-04

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TO AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 183362

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, CG, AO, CS

SUBJECT: ZAIRE/ANGOLA: MEDIATION AND VERIFICATION

REF: BRAZZAVILLE 958

1. WE NOTE FROM REFTEL THAT, ACCORDING TO GOZ CHARGE
IN BRAZZAVILLE, "ANGOLANS HAVE CHOSEN NIGERIA AND
CAMEROON, AND ZAIRE HAS CHOSEN SUDAN AND RWANDA TO BE
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THEIR COUNTRIES SERVING ON VERIFICATION COMMISSION" ALONG
ANGOLAN/ZAIRIAN BORDER.

2. WHILE DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ANGOLA AND
ZAIRE WILL REPORTEDLY ONLY BE WORKED OUT DURING COURSE
OF THIS WEEK, WE BELIEVE THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR A
"VERIFICATION COMMISSION" ARE LIKELY TO RESEMBLE

THE CONCEPT PROPOSED BY PRESIDENT MOBUTU. FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY AT THIS TIME, MOBUTU TOLD AMBASSADOR CUTLER AND DEPTOFF IN KINSHASA THAT VERIFICATION OF THE UNDERTAKINGS OF EACH PARTY, ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER, WAS ESSENTIAL TO ANY AGREEMENT DESIGNED TO ALLAY SUSPICIONS AND TO INCREASE SENSE OF SECURITY. HE SUGGESTED, ILLUSTRATIVELY, THAT ANGOLA AND ZAIRE EACH DESIGNATE TWO OR THREE COUNTRIES OF THEIR OWN CHOICE, TO WORK UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE OAU, AS A VERIFICATION TEAM.

3. FYI: WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY MOBUTU, AND BY THE ZAIRIAN CHARGE IN BRAZZAVILLE, THAT WE CAN ANTICIPATE REQUEST TO USG FOR PROVISION OF LOGISTICAL SUPPORT, IN FORM OF LIGHT AIRCRAFT, TO PERMIT VERIFICATION TEAM TO CARRY OUT ITS FUNCTIONS. IF AND WHEN SUCH A REQUEST IS RECEIVED, WE WILL CONSIDER IT IN CONTEXT OF ANGOLAN/ZAIRIAN AGREEMENT, OF DEGREE OF OAU SUPPORT, AND OF ALL OTHER RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS. END FYI.

4. GRANTING THERE REMAIN MANY UNKNOWNS IN HOW VERIFICATION CONCEPT MIGHT EVOLVE, WOULD APPRECIATE ACTION ADDRESSEES BEST ESTIMATES, WITHOUT CONSULTING HOST GOVERNMENTS AT THIS TIME, OF HOW THEY WOULD LIKELY REACT IF ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VERIFICATION TEAM. WHAT WOULD BE PRIME CONSIDERATIONS IN DETERMINING THEIR RESPONSE? HOW WOULD THEY VIEW IDEA OF CONFIDENTIAL

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NON-AFRICAN LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR THE TEAM? WOULD THEY PERHAPS PREFER AN ALL-AFRICAN EFFORT, FUNDED EITHER BY THE TWO STATES INVOLVED OR BY THE OAU ITSELF?

5. FOR KHARTOUM: ASSUMING COMMISSION IS CREATED TO OPERATE UNDER AEGIS OF OAU CHAIRMANSHP, COULD/WOULD GOS ALSO SERVE AS MEMBER?

CHRISTOPHER

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